

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-02 DHA-02 DODE-00 NSC-05

CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 /072 W

-----013204 120132Z /66

O R 112150Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1452

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 4648

FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV

FROM USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJ: BELGRADE CSCE MEETING: TUNISIAN NOTE REQUESTING CSCE

ROLE

REFS: A) BELGRADE 4354; B) BELGRADE 4353; C) BELGRADE 4372

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SUMMARY: TUNISIA, FOLLOWING ALGERIA'S EXAMPLE, HAS

CIRCULATED A NOTE AND AIDE MEMOIRE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS

IN BELGRADE CSCE PREPARATORY MEETING EXPRESSING INTEREST

IN MAKING CONTRIBUTION TO MAIN MEETING THIS FALL AND HINT-

ING AT WISH TO PARTICIPATE ON MORE REGULAR BASIS IN CSCE

WORK. END SUMMARY.

1. EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT CIRCULATED TO ALL DELS
JULY 11 FOLLOWING DIPLOMATIC NOTE, DATED JUNE 30, AND
ACCOMPANYING AIDE MEMOIRE FROM TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT EXPRESS-
ING INTEREST IN MAKING "ACTIVE CONTRIBUTION" TO MAIN CSCE
MEETING THIS FALL. BEGIN TEXT:

THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
OF THE BELGRADE MEETING (CSCE)
BELGRADE

SIR,
ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT AND WITH
REFERENCE TO THE TUNISIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE ON
SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, HELD AT HELSINKI AND
GENEVA, I HAVE THE HONOUR TO INFORM YOU OF TUNISIA'S
DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BELGRADE MEETING.

AS A MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRY DIRECTLY CONCERNED BY EURO-
MEDITERRANEAN SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION, TUNISIA FEELS
BOUND ONCE AGAIN TO MAKE AN ACTIVE CONTRIBUTION - AND,
WE HOPE A USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE ONE - TO THE WORK OF
THIS MEETING. THE ATTACHED AIDE-MEMOIRE SETS FORTH THE
TUNISIAN POSITION IN THIS RESPECT.

I SHOULD BE OBLIGED IF YOU WOULD KINDLY BRING THE TUNISIAN
INITIATIVE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNTRIES PARTICIPAT-
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ING IN THE BELGRADE MEETING.

ACCEPT, SIR, THE ASSURANCES OF BMY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

(SIGNED)
NOUREDDINE MEJDOUB
DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS
FOR EUROPE AND AMERICA

AIDE-MEMOIRE
TUNISIA, WHICH CONSIDERS THAT SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION
IN EUROPE CANNOT BE DISSOCIATED FROM SECURITY AND CO-
OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, HAS NOT FAILED TO DEMON-
STRATE A GENUINE INTEREST IN THE CSCE, WITH WHOSE WORK IT
CONSIDERED ITSELF ENTITLED TO BE ASSOCIATED.

THANKS TO THE UNDERSTANDING SHOWN BY THE PARTICIPANTS,
IT WAS POSSIBLE NOT ONLY TO INCLUDE IN THE AGENDA OF THE
CONFERENCE QUESTIONS RELATING TO SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, BUT ALSO TO INVITE NON-PARTICIPATING
MEDITERRANEAN STATES TO MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE WORK
OF THE CONFERENCE.

TUNISIA, WHICH, TOGETHER WITH OTHER MEDITERRANEAN ARAB COUNTRIES, RESPONDED TO THAT INVITATION, SUBSEQUENTLY EXPRESSED ITS SATISFACTION AT THE SIGNATURE OF THE FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI.

THE CONFERENCE, FOR ITS PART, EXPRESSED ITSELF AS "NOTING WITH APPRECIATION THE INTEREST EXPRESSED BY THE NON-PARTICIPATING MEDITERRANEAN STATES IN THE CONFERENCE SINCE ITS INCEPTION, AND HAVING DULY TAKEN THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS INTO ACCOUNT".

THE PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL ACT RELATING TO THE MEDITERRANEAN BEAR WITNESS TO THE CONVICTION OF THE CONFERENCE THAT
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"SECURITY IN EUROPE IS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE BROADER CONTEXT OF WORLD SECURITY AND (BEGIN UNDERSCORE) IS CLOSELY LINKED WITH SECURITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA AS A WHOLE (END UNDERSCORE), AND THAT ACCORDINGLY THE PROCESS OF IMPROVING SECURITY SHOULD NOT BE CONFINED TO EUROPE BUT SHOULD EXTEND TO OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, AND (BEGIN UNDERSCORE) IN PARTICULAR TO THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA (END UNDERSCORE)".

TO ADVANCE THE OBJECTIVES SET FORTH IN THE CHAPTER ON THE MEDITERRANEAN "THE PARTICIPATING STATES ALSO DECLARE (BEGIN UNDERSCORE) THEIR INTENTION OF MAINTAINING AND AMPLIFYING THE CONTACTS AND DIALOGUE AS INITIATED BY THE CSCE WITH THE NON-PARTICIPATING MEDITERRANEAN STATES TO INCLUDE ALL THE STATES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN (END UNDERSCORE), WITH THE PURPOSE OF CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE, REDUCING ARMED FORCES IN THE REGION, STRENGTHENING SECURITY, LESSENING TENSIONS IN THE REGION, AND WIDENING THE SCOPE

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OF CO-OPERATION, ENDS IN WHICH ALL SHARE A COMMON INTEREST,
AS WELL AS WITH THE PURPOSE OF DEFINING FURTHER COMMON
OBJECTIVES."

ONE YEAR AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE FINAL ACT, A CONSIDERABLE
SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTED AT
THE VTH SUMMIT MEETING OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AT COLOMBO
(AUGUST 1976) DREW THE ATTENTION OF THE STATES PARTIES TO
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THE CSCE TO THE NEED TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THE
FINAL ACT RELATING TO THE MEDITERRANEAN.

AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
UNITED NATIONS, IN ITS RESOLUTION 31/92 ADOPTED ON
14 DECEMBER 1976, INVITED "THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CON-
FERENCE ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE TO IMPLE-
MENT FULLY AND URGENTLY ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL
ACT, INCLUDING THOSE RELATING TO THE MEDITERRANEAN, AND
TO CONSIDER FAVOURABLY THE CONVERSION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
INTO A ZONE OF PEACE AND...INTERNATIONAL...SECURITY."

THUS THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT THE HIGHEST
LEVEL AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, THROUGH THE VOICE

OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION, EXPLICITLY SUPPORT
EUROPE'S MARKED COMMITMENT TO THE MEDITERRANEAN.

NEVERTHELESS, TWO YEARS AFTER THE PROCLAMATION OF THE
FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI, THE SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN
REGION REMAINS DEEPLY DISTURBING.

THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT, WHICH IS A BASIC FACTOR UNDER-
LYING THE TENSIONS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, CONTINUES TO POSE
A SERIOUS THREAT TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE REGION AND IN
THE WORLD AND TO HAMPER THE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OF THE
COUNTRIES CONCERNED.

AS A RESULT, THE MOBILIZATION OF ENERGIES IS DIVERTED FROM
ITS FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE, NAMELY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
PROGRESS, TO DISSIPATE ITSELF IN THE EXHAUSTING EFFORT OF
A HEADLONG ARMS RACE, WHICH IS DANGEROUS AND RUINOUS IN
MORE THAN ONE RESPECT.

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THUS THE HIATUS BETWEEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITUATION
IN EUROPE AND IN THE COUNTRIES ON THE SOUTHERN SHORES OF
THE MEDITERRANEAN IS EVIDENT.

HOWEVER, THE SECURITY AND PROSPERITY OF EUROPE CANNOT
INDEFINITELY BE RECONCILED WITH THE INSECURITY AND UNDER-
DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEIGHBOURING MEDITERRANEAN
REGION.

ON THE CONTRARY, IT IS THROUGH PEACE AND ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THIS REGION THAT EUROPE CAN
GUARANTEE ITS SECURITY AND ENSURE ITS PROSPERITY AND ITS
ECONOMIC EXPANSION.

TUNISIA CONSIDERS THAT THE HOLDING OF THE BELGRADE MEET-
ING WITHIN THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY
FOR THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES AND FOR THE NON-PARTICIPAT-
ING MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES TO RE-ESTABLISH THEIR CONTACTS
WITH A VIEW TO WORKING TOGETHER TO FURTHER THE PROCESS OF
PEACE, SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF NON-
EUROPEAN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES, SUCH AS TUNISIA, COULD
OPEN THE WAY TO A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE, CONDUCIVE TO THE
CONSOLIDATION OF SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE
AND IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

DESIRING ONCE AGAIN TO MAKE ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THIS WORK

OF PEACE AND CO-OPERATION, TUNISIA IS READY, FOR ITS PART,
TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE WORK OF THE BELGRADE MEET-
ING WITHIN THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE
ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE. END TEXT.

2. COMMENT: TUNISIAN NOTE AND AIDE MEMOIRE ARE ESSENTIALLY
SIMILAR TO ALGERIAN NOTE WHICH YUGOSLAVS REQUESTED
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT TO CIRCULATE JUNE 28 (REF A). LIKE
ALGERIANS, TUNISIANS RECALL THEIR GENEVA ROLE AND INDICATE,
THOUGH SLIGHTLY MORE ELLIPTICALLY, THEIR DESIRE TO PAR-
TICIPATE IN MORE PERMANENT WAY TO BELGRADE THAN AT GENEVA.

WE NOTE SIMILARITY ALSO WITH DRAFT MALTESE PAPER (REF B)
IN TUNISIAN ARGUMENTATION THAT SUCH AN INCREASED PARTICIPA-
TION IS JUSTIFIED BY "DEEPLY DISTURBING" SECURITY
SITUATION IN MEDITERRANEAN. END COMMENT.
SHERER

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Message Attributes

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